

APPENDIX F
STATE PROJECT

**State Project
Metro Water Services of
Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee**

This Appendix contains a description of the proposed State Project ("SP") to be funded by Metro Water Services of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee as part of a consent decree resolving alleged unauthorized discharges from Metro Water Services Combined and Separate Sanitary Sewer System. Metro Water Services will dedicate two hundred eighty-two thousand and nineteen dollars (\$282,019) to The Cumberland River Compact (The Compact) within this SP.

A. Project Purpose

With this SP, Metro Water Services will contract with The Compact to address water quality issues through Project Blue Streams, a new small stream restoration program The Compact is launching in Metro Nashville and Davidson County. A targeted watershed approach will be used to address local water quality problems through pollution prevention, pollution reduction, public health avenues, and environmental education, restoration and protection.

The Compact, with the support of Metro Water will develop a program similar to and possibly in cooperation with the 10,000 Rain Gardens program of Kansas City. In addition to traditional rain garden materials, The Compact will also dovetail in the elements of a Tree Planting Initiative both to be implemented in Nashville. It will be a non-governmental program working with neighborhood associations, homeowners associations, garden clubs, businesses, schools and churches. This initiative will augment considerations such as stormwater infiltration, the benefits of slowing stormwater runoff and the filtration of the first "flush" of stormwater leaving a site. Additionally, the tree planting initiative will seek to restore trees to the natural hydrologic cycle on land that is denuded or impacted as Nashville's urban watersheds develop/redevelop with ever-increasing impervious surface.

The SP will result in a broad range of citizenry including lawn care companies, being exposed to water-quality issues through clean ups, rain garden trainings, riparian enhancement, benthic macro-invertebrate counts, and visual stream assessments. These activities will be used as motivation for greater citizen stewardship and public awareness, but results will also be reported to Metro Water Services to red flag potentially polluted streams and monitor success toward restoring streams.

Metro Water Services recently added an Adopt a Stream program to its department. The SEP will be utilized to promote the Adopt a Stream program in excess of what Metro Water is currently doing with the targeted results being more local stream miles being adopted, tended and restored.

Large-scale restoration projects are planned for each of three targeted watersheds – Mill Creek, Whites Creek and Richland Creek. Lessons learned from these demonstration

projects will be used to educate local citizenry and showcase the biodiversity present in our Mid Cumberland Basin.

Metro Water Services recently enacted new Storm Water regulations with an increased buffer zone. This SP will be used to enhance species diversity within targeted buffer areas providing optimal stormwater runoff infiltration and filtration.

One goal of this SP is to educate people of all ages about the natural water cycle, our role and relationships with local small streams and the ensuing impacts of actions in small streams upon the larger watershed. The activities resulting from the SP will foster immediate restoration efforts as well as long term stewardship leading to water conservation and cleaner waters. This in turn will yield a healthier stream system in the Nashville Metro area for both people and aquatic life.

Another goal of this SP will be to bring attention to/educate the development community on the water quality/stormwater issues created by the use of extensive imperviousness on development sites. The objective of this initiative will be to educate those making decisions regarding property development and to reach their design professionals while projects are still in the planning phase so as to identify possible opportunities to reduce imperviousness without compromising development objectives.

The specific goals for this SP are to:

- Build an average of 60 rain gardens per year in the first five (5) years of the SP in Metro Nashville and Davidson County and based on achievement of these milestones, plan for additional rain garden installations in future years.
- Plant 10,000 trees of ½ inch diameter or greater in Metro Nashville and Davidson County
- Educate residents of Metro Nashville and Davison County about water quality through stream clean-ups, rain garden trainings, macro-invertebrate counts, riparian enhancement projects and stream walks
- Enhance existing impaired riparian buffer zones
- Facilitate the adoption of at least 15 stream segments through Metro Water Service's Adopt a Stream Program
- Formulate (and distribute via Metro) educational materials specific to Metro Nashville/Davidson County outlining the impacts of "imperviousness" on ambient water quality and stormwater quality considerations, as well as what Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) can be utilized to minimize imperviousness and the various related stormwater runoff impacts.
- Educate local citizenry about the federally endangered Nashville Crayfish and other unique species residing in Nashville's streams

The Compact will provide complete documentation of their various activities relating to the performance of this SP to Metro Water Services as needed to submit any related compliance documentation to State or Federal officials.

B. Project Scope

To complete this SP, Metro Water Services shall:

- Provide \$50,000 per year in years one (1) thru five (5) and \$32,019 in year six (6) to The Cumberland River Compact to implement the SP goals outlined above.
- Provide meeting facilities as deemed appropriate by Metro Water Services to facilitate SP activities.

C. SP Costs

Metro Water Services shall set aside \$282,019 toward the performance of the previously stated SP activities.

D. Project Schedule

The duration of the SP will be six (6) years from the date of acceptance of this SP and subsequent written notification to The Compact. At the end of six (6) years the partnership will be evaluated for possible further funding by Metro Water Services.